

Appl. No. 10/602,479
Amdt. dated 4/27/2004
Reply to Office Action of January 22, 2004

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 21-28, 31-37, and 41-43 are pending in the present patent application. Claims 1-20 were canceled in a previous amendment. Claims 29-30 and 38-40 are being canceled in the present amendment.

Claims 22, 28, and 37 have been amended, and new claims 41-43 have been added. No new matter has been added to the new or the amended claims. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Restriction/Election Requirement

Claims 21-40 in the present application have been subjected to a restriction requirement. Specifically, the office action grouped claims 21-28 and 31-37 into Species I and claims 29-30 and 38-40 into Species II. In response, claims 29-30 and 38-40 have been canceled.

Prior Art Rejections of Claims 21-28 and 31-37

Claims 21-28 and 31-37 were rejected as being obvious in light of U.S. Patent 6,304,870 to Kushmerick et al. in view of 5 articles relating to an Excite shopping site.

The claims of the present application include a wrapper that fills in forms based on user related information stored in a database. A wrapper of the present invention can extract user related information from user meta-database 170 and user selection database 180 and place the user information in appropriate fields in the vendor forms. The wrapper then submits the forms to vendors. These techniques are described in the present patent application at page 12, lines 19-33; and with respect to Figures 1C-1D at page 8, line 25 – page, 22.

Specially, claim 21 recites “filling in the plurality of forms based on user related information stored in a database using a wrapper.”

The Kushmerick et al. patent describes a wrapper that extracts information from sites such as Internet resources. See abstract, and column 2, line 62 – column 3, line 50 in Kushmerick et al.

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The present invention uses wrappers in a different way than was used or contemplated in the prior art. It would not have been obvious to combine the Excite shopping articles with the Kushmerick et al. patent to achieve the claim invention, because Kushmerick et al. does not suggest using wrapper to fill in forms with user related information, as recited in the claim 21 and the other claims of the present application.

For these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 21-28, 31-37, and 41-43 are not rendered obvious by the cited prior art references.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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